

# 2023 Organic Seed Catalogue



## About this catalogue

We are an online shop, as such this catalogue is for reference only, for more detailed and up to date information, and to place your order please visit our website - vitalseeeds.co.uk.

**Large Packs -** some of our varieties are available in large packs (roughly four times regular packet size). The price of a large pack is indicated next to the regular packet price throughout the catalogue.

Growing your own food is a powerful act of self-reliance in a world where we are encouraged to buy everything we need (and lots that we don't) from external sources. Saving your own seed goes one step further, and part of our mission is to share what we know about saving seeds with others. We believe it is our duty as gardeners are growers to learn about this process, otherwise we leave the control of our precious food system in the hands of others.

You can find useful growing and seed saving resources on our website.

All the best, and happy growing for the coming season.

Fred, Ronja and the rest of the team

Vital Seeds Baddaford Farm Yard Ashburton Newton Abbot Devon TQ13 7NF



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# VEGETABLES

# AGRETTI

## AGRETTI (ORGANIC) Salsola soda

A leafy Italian delicacy, can be eaten raw or cooked. Agretti is a popular Italian leaf which is slowly becoming more popular in the UK particularly with chefs. Its flavour could be described as 'chivey samphire' and is slightly salty. It can be lightly steamed, stirred through pasta, or added raw to salads to add an interesting twist. The seeds are only viable for a few months - they are actually little plants not strictly seeds. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

## ASIAN GREENS

## GIANT RED MUSTARD (ORGANIC) Brassica juncea

The young leaves are of a succulent, delicate and peppery flavour. When harvested fully matured, the leaves might surprise you with their bold flavour. When cooked or steamed like other greens however the taste will be mild and similar to spinach or chard. Giant Red Mustard seeds are also excellent for sprouting. (Average seed count in regular packet - 330)

## MIZUNA (ORGANIC) Brassica rapa

Mizuna has a mild piquant almost peppery taste and can be used raw in salads and also as a cooked green. It is highly resistant to the cold and can be grown throughout the winter, making those cold, short days and long nights feel healthier and a little bit spicier! The pretty yellow sprays of flowers can also be a bright addition to a salad with the same mustardy hit. (Average seed count in regular packet - 275)



## MIZUNA - "BENI HOUSHI" (ORGANIC) Brassica rapa

This beautiful new mizuna variety is apparently taking the Japanese foody-scene by storm! It's similar in taste to green mizuna and is delicious raw in salads or cooked in stir-fries.

With its contrasting colour scheme it's a real head-turner and is certain to impress. (Average seed count in regular packet - 180)



#### PAK CHOI (ORGANIC) Brassica rapa

Also known as 'Boo Toy', 'Horse's Ear', 'Japanese Celery', Pak Choi looks like a squat fat celery with dark green spoon shaped leaves. You can eat all of the plant above ground and it's delicious with sesame oil, chilli and steamed rice. It grows well in cooler conditions and can be used as cut and come again or as a more mature plant later in the year. Any ideas as to why it's called Horses Ear, we'd love to hear! (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

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## (MSAg) £2.05 - 4.00

(OrMz) **£1.68** 

(OrGR) £1.95

(OrBH) **£1.90** 

(OrPC) **£1.68 - 3.80** 

## Asian Greens continued...

## PURPLE FRILLS (ORGANIC)

Brassica juncea

Purple Frills has beautiful burgundy tinged, spidery leaves. It adds interest to any salad with its hot mustardy flavour. It can also be cooked and used a spicy spinach alternative. It is abundant in its growth and will continue throughout the coldest weather. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)

## TATSOI (ORGANIC) Brassica rapa

Tat Soi produces leaves with a mild mustard flavour and a crunchy texture that can be used raw as a delicious addition to a salad or cooked in a variety of ways. It is a fast growing variety that can be cut at any stage. If the baby leaves are left to mature they become a stunning rosette of broad round greens with a wide, crisp and juicy central stem. (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)

## AUBERGINE



#### BLACK BEAUTY (ORGANIC) Solanum melongena

Black Beauty is as good as its hybrid sister varieties! In the right conditions (light, greenhouse/polytunnel) they fruit abundantly and the plants grow tall and strong. The aubergines themselves are all shapes, sizes and shades of purple which prove popular at markets or in the kitchen! They fruit early to mid season with aubergines from July - September. This is our favourite variety to grow, and most importantly the fruit tastes fab! (Average seed count in regular packet - 18)

# UNIT OF STREET

## CESKY RANY (ORGANIC) Solanum melongena

Robust plants producing early violet fruits that have aromatic light green flesh. It is an old variety originating in Czechia with "rany" literally translating to "early". It is robust, productive and can deal with colder conditions than other aubergines. In the warmer and drier areas of the country it will even do well grown outdoors. (Average seed count in regular packet - )

# BEETROOT



## BOLTARDY (ORGANIC) Beta vulgaris

Boltardy is a winner of the RHS Award of Garden Merit and has a well earned reputation for being a real 'workhorse' variety. Many large scale growers choose this variety over its modern hybrid cousins for early sowings. We love it as it does exactly what is says on the tin. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

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## (OrPF) £1.88 - 3.80

(OrTS) **£1.68 - 3.50** 

(AuBB) **£2.10** 

(AuCR) **£2.20** 

(BeBo) **£2.33** 

## Beetroot continued...

## Page 8

## (BeCh) £2.90 - 4.60



CHIOGGIA (ORGANIC)

## Beta vulgaris

This unusual cultivar has been around since the early 19th century and originates from the coastal town of Chioggia near Venice in Northern Italy. With its delicate flavour and soft flesh it will make an ideal raw addition in salads or as a decorative side dish. When cooked the rings will fade out a little and become pinkish but the beetroot will keep its sweet and mild delicious taste. Definitely our favourite in terms of looks! (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

#### CYLINDRA (ORGANIC) Beta vulgaris

Deep purple, and typically 20cm tall, and 6cm diameter, but like any beet, can get very large with enough room. They look great in the veg patch, at the market and also on your plate! Very suitable as a main crop and has excellent storage capability.

Guest description by our friend Dan from Chagfood CSA (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)



**BROAD BEANS** 

#### DETROIT (ORGANIC) Beta vulgaris This is a classic variety, havi

This is a classic variety, having proved itself since 1892 when it was introduced by the D.M. Ferry Seed Company, in Michigan, USA. It is reliable and high-yielding and remains a favourite with gardeners and growers to this day.

The large, globe-shaped beets have the typical beetroot colour and an excellent flavour making it perfect for baking, sautéing, grating into salads, pickling and anything else that you might want to do with a beetroot. Yes, it will also store well! (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

## RATIO (ORGANIC) Vicia faba

Early, productive broad bean with an excellent pod shape, good pod set and a delicious flavour. Thanks to its branching habit, the crop stays short and is at less risk of lodging. Very flavoursome and suitable for freezing. (Average seed count in regular packet - 36)



## SUPER AQUADULCE (ORGANIC)

Vicia faba According to food historian Willam Woys Weaver this variety can be traced back to Vilmorin's selection of a Spanish broad bean called 'haba de Sevilla' in 1885. Super Aquadulce is extra hardy and can withstand cold temperatures. It will produce massive amounts of delicious uniform green pods with large beans. Although especially suited for Autumn sowing, Aquadulce can be sown in early spring for a summer/autumn crop too. (Average seed count in regular packet - 36)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:





(BeDe) **£2.10 - 3.80** 

(BBRa) **£2.90** 

(BBSA) £2.59

(BeCy) £2.30 - 4.40



## EARLY PURPLE (ORGANIC)

## Brassica oleracea

We love Early Purple broccoli, it comes at a time of year when we are in serious need of some green vegetables that are not kale, chard or leeks! We can quite happily eat it with every meal during its harvest window. It is very versatile, being great seamed, stir fried, roasted, added to soups and stews, put in omelettes... the list goes on.

It is slow growing and takes around one year from sowing to harvest but it is well worth the wait with each plant producing a lot of food. Plants can grow up to Im in height. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)

## BRUSSELS SPROUTS



## **GRONINGER** (ORGANIC)

Brassica oleraceae

Groninger is a great-tasting Brussel sprout variety, with improving flavour as the cold draws in. It is an ideal choice for your garden, giving a steady supply of small to medium sized sprouts with tight heads just in time for Christmas dinner.

This variety has received the RHS Award of Garden Merit and is tried and tested, sturdy and reliable. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

## CABBAGE



#### DERBY DAY (ORGANIC) Brassica oleracea

This is our favourite summer cabbage. An excellent variety for cropping as early as June. It is more resistant to splitting and bolting than some other fast-growing varieties. It has a dense interior of mild flavour that is ideal for steaming, boiling or in used in a coleslaw. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

## New for 2023

## (CbKa) £2.70

(CbLr) **£2.60** 



## KALIBOS (ORGANIC)

Brassica oleracea

A heritage variety from Eastern Europe producing pink/purple pointed heads of roughly 2kg. This beautiful variety is a traditional rare variety from Eastern Europe. It is deliciously sweet and is perfectly suited to shredding into salads and fermenting into saurkraut. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)



LANGEDIJK RED LATE (ORGANIC) Brassica oleracea

This improved variety is particularly suited for storage and has good taste. It also makes a very fine sauerkraut, turning bright pink during the fermentation with the addition of salt. Red cabbage can be used as a litmus test for acidity turning blue in more alkaline conditions. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

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## (BrEP) £2.09 - 4.00

(BSGr) **£2.35 - 5.50** 

(CbDD) £2.90 - 5.95

Cabbage continued...



(CbVM) £2.70

(BRGC) **£2.36** 

# CAI ABRFSF



#### GREEN CALABRESE (ORGANIC)

VERZA MORETTA (ORGANIC)

list of traditional rare varieties.

Brassica oleracaea

Brassica oleracea

Ready for harvest from late summer and into autumn, this is a wonderful variety. Calabrese like other broccoli varieties is hungry and benefits from a good dose of compost for best harvests. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

Fantastic traditional 'Veronese' purple Savoy cabbage with bright green centre. This striking variety has been cultivated in the countryside around the Adige river in Italy since the nineteenth century and is on the official

It has purple and green outer leaves and bright green-yellow centres. Forms a compact head with a sweet

flavour, perfectly suited to salads, soups, and risottos. (Average seed count in regular packet - 50)

## CARROT



#### AUTUMN KING (ORGANIC) Daucus carota

How could we not include Autumn King in our catalogue?! This is one of our favourite varieties, and certainly lives up to its name. It is an RHS Award of Garden Merit winner and is a firm favourite amongst both home and market gardeners.

It produces conical roots up to 30cm long and with a deep organgey-red colour. It is sweet-tasting and delicious both raw and cooked. (Average seed count in regular packet - 400)



#### NANTES 2 (ORGANIC) Daucus carota

Originally from France but grown in this country for decades as a kitchen garden favourite, this is a classic carrot variety of the half-long type. Reaching up to 17cm in length and 3-4 cm in diameter, it is a sweet, bright orange, blunt, cylindrical root, round at the top and bottom. It has fine texture and delicate flavour with almost no core. It is ideal for early sowings but can delight you with a tasty crop throughout the year as well. (Average seed count in regular packet - 400)



#### YELLOWSTONE (ORGANIC) Daucus carota

Yellowstone carrots have a delicate, sweet flavour. They cook just as well as their orange siblings but add that extra rainbow colour to any plate of food. And of course delicious raw with lots of crunch. They produce large foliage which is reflected in the often large root that is growing beneath the ground. (Average seed count in regular packet - 400)

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(CaNa) **£1.60 - 3.80** 

(CaYe) **£2.25** 

(CaAK) £1.60 - 4.00

# CAULIFLOWER

SNOWBALL (ORGANIC)

Brassica oleracea

Snowball cauliflower was bred in the 1890s in America, and it has certainly stood the test of time. It produces heads of up to 15cm diameter ready 65-70 days from sowing. It has a mild flavour perfect for cooking but also delicious raw.

The plants are smaller than some cauliflowers and so can be planted closer together. We particularly love this variety due to its flexibility. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

# CELERIAC



## IBIS (ORGANIC)

Apium graveolens

Ibis is a vigorous variety that produces smooth white skinned globes with a good dense interior. Its celerylike nutty mild taste enriches soups and stews and it tastes amazing when roasted or mashed. Our favourite recipes include celeriac schnitzel, battered and pan-fried and celeriac chips with curry powder.

We're selling particularly this variety because it has all the qualities you would want from a celeriac. Its smooth skin makes it easy to clean, it's resistant to septoria, good for storing and is bolt-hardy which makes it suitable for early cultivation under protection. (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)

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CFI FRY



## TALL UTAH (ORGANIC)

Abium graveolens We love the deep green colour of this celery and its super-crunchy string-less stalks. It was first introduced in the USA in 1953 and was the outcome of a breeding program by the Ferry Morse Seed Company in California. It was developed to be resistant to many common diseases of celery, and remains a reliable variety to this day. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

## CHARD



BULL'S BLOOD (ORGANIC) Beta vulgaris

The leaves are exceptionally dark red, almost purple colour and very tender and sweet, especially as babyleaf. They can be cut up to 4-5 times and will grow back. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)



ERBETTE (ORGANIC) Beta vulgaris

Perpetual spinach or beet leaf is actually a part of the chard family. It tastes similar to spinach but is slightly earthier in flavour.

Hardy, easy to grow and bolt-resistant in its first season it makes a good replacement for true spinach where growing conditions are difficult. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

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(CeTU) **£1.60** 

(BLBB) **£2.38** 

(BLPS) £2.30 - 4.40

(CIIb) **£2.30** 

## Chard continued...

## Page 12

## (BLFC) **£2.90 - 4.20**



FIVE COLOURS (ORGANIC)

Beta vulgaris Harvested as baby leaf in less than 6 weeks. Both the tender leaves and stalks are easy to fry, steam, blanch or add to an omelette. This variety of chard is less hardy and doesn't handle frost as well, so best not relied on as your only winter green. (Average seed count in regular packet - 130)



RHUBARB (ORGANIC) Beta vulgaris This ornamental looking chard is worth just growing for its beauty! It can be used like any other chard or

spinach. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

## (BLRh) **£2.30**



WHITE (ORGANIC) Beta vulgaris If you need a leafy vegetable that 'just grows' Swiss Chard is a garden essential. From two sowings, one in

(BLSw) **£2.30** 

(ChCG) £2.60 - 6.72

(ChPS) £1.60 - 5.95

the Spring and one in the Autumn, you can have chard almost all year round. In Fred's words "Chard is just always there, even if you don't want it, it's still there". (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

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# CHICORY



## CATALOGNA GIGANTE DI CHIOGGIA (ORGANIC) Cichorium intybus

Leaf chicory best used as a delicious sautéing green. Catalogna Gigante di Chioggia - also known as dandelion greens - is an open leaf chicory type which is similar to wild chicory.

The leaves make some of the best sautéing greens around, sweet with a slight bitter edge. They can be blanched in salty water to remove some of the bitterness if desired. Drain and fry up with garlic and chilli for a truly delicious side dish. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)



## PAIN DE SUCRE (ORGANIC) Cichorium intybus

This is a more mild tasting chicory that is a superb substitute for lettuce in the winter. Indeed, this is a common practice in several rural parts of France and no doubt elsewhere, too. It can produce very large heads, with a tender green exterior and golden yellow hearts that have a real sweetness to them, hence the name! (Average seed count in regular packet - 500)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:





## Chicory continued...

## Page 13

## (ChPt) £2.70 - 8.40

(ChCF) **£2.50 - 8.40** 

(ChT5) £2.45 - 5.50

(ChTE) **£2.20 - 6.72** 

(ChTL) **£2.70 - 8.40** 



PUNTARELLE (ORGANIC)

## Cichorium intybus

An interesting chicory variety grown for its hollow bolting shoots. Unlike other chicory varieties which are grown for their leaves, Puntarelle is grown for its flowering shoots. The young shoots form a 'head' at the base of plant and are julienned into thin strips which are then soaked in cold water to removed some of their bitterness. In the water they twist and curl into elegant crisp and crunchy shapes which are then served with a punchy dressing to make a lovely late autumn salad.

Shoots usually appear between mid-October and November. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

#### RADICCHIO CASTELFRANCO (SM4.18) (ORGANIC) *Cichorium intybus*

Stunning extra early radicchio best suited for raw salads. Castelfranco radicchio varieties are considered the queen of salad leaves. Their exquisite beauty will add something very special to your salad bowl, and their flavour is much sweeter than other radicchio types.

The plants begin with broad open green leaves, developing a central head as they mature. The inner leaves take on a pale yellow colour with beautiful burgundy speckles. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

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## RADICCHIO CHIOGGIA '506 TT' (ORGANIC) Cichorium intybus

Fantastic modern Palla Rossa type radicchio forming large round heads. This is a wonderful new Radicchio variety much celebrated by market gardeners due to the high consistency of its heads which can be harvested from September until December.

The leaves can be eaten raw as a delicious addition to winter salads, or they can be sliced and baked with olive oil and balsamic. (Average seed count in regular packet - 150)



## RADICCHIO TREVISO EARLY (SM4.10) (ORGANIC) *Cichorium intybus*

A mid-early Treviso-type radicchio ideal for both salads and cooking. Treviso is one of the main centres of radicchio production in Italy and "Precoce" means early. This variety produces dense elongated heads, of striking deep red and white appearance which can be harvested from autumn.

The leaves make a wonderful addition to raw salads as they are sweeter than some red headed radicchio types. The heads are equally tasty grilled or sautéed as is commonplace in Italy. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)



#### RADICCHIO TREVISO LATE (FORCING) (ORGANIC) Cichorium intybus

A forcing chicory from Treviso for delicious winter eating. This variety of chicory has been bred for forcing through the winter months (Tardivo means late in Italian), and produces totally delicious 'chicons'

To force chicory the plants should be left untouched in the field until winter time. When you wish to force them, pull up however many plants you need and replant the roots into a moist medium such as sand or spent compost. The plants then need to kept in total darkness for a few weeks and then beautiful chicons will grow from the roots. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

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# CHILLI

## DE CAYENNE (ORGANIC)

#### Capsicum annum

Cayenne peppers are one of the best known chillis and rightly so. The abundance of hot, thin long fruits with great flavour and a thin skin make them perfect for making fresh hot sauce, pickling or dried and ground up into your own chilli powder.

The plant itself is super productive, upright growing and reaches about 60cm in height.

SHU of around 30,000 to 50,000 on the Scoville Scale. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

## HABANERO MAGNUM (ORGANIC) Capsicum chinense

Habanero Magnum rates between 200,000 and 325,000 SHU on the Scoville scale and is therefore on the hotter end of the spectrum. A fruity almost floral flavour can be tasted when the initial spice has faded. It is a great ingredient for hot sauces or when powdered. A way of controlling the heat when cooking with it is to make a couple of holes in the chilli and then add it to the sauce (or whatever it is your cooking) as a whole and remove after a certain amount of time determining the degree of fieriness. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

## JALAPENO, EARLY (ORGANIC) Capsicum annum

Plants grow to 60cm high and fruit heavily, with harvesting of typical green Jalapeños beginning in early August, and continuing through into autumn. We thinly slice and preserve ours eating them with Mexican dishes throughout the rest of the year. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)



## LEMON DROP (ORGANIC) Capsicum annum

One of our most popular chilli varieties with a bushy growth habit and lots of fruits ripening from green to yellow.

The variety is also called Aji Limon and originates from Peru where it's used as a seasoning pepper. Rating 30,000-50,000 SHU (Scoville heat units) it is quite a spicy one ideal for making your own hot chilli sauce with an extra citrusy twist or add it to stir fries, tomato sauces or your scrambled eggs. (Average seed count in regular packet - 23)

## **New for 2023**



## PADRON (ORGANIC) Capsicum annum

A classic Spanish tapas variety, mild when picked young, very hot if left to mature. Padron is a stand-out favourite pepper variety for us. Traditionally the fruits are picked when small and green before they have developed much heat. If left on the plant a bit longer they will get very hot, and sometimes one slips through the net, hence the Russian roulette associated with this variety. As the fruits do not need to ripen you can start picking them early in the season so Padron is a good choice for the UK climate where some peppers struggle to ripen in our short and cool growing season. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

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(PHCy) **£1.98** 

(PHHM) £1.95

(PHIE) £1.98

(PHLD) £2.05 - 4.00

(PHPd) **£2.10** 

## Page 15

#### (PHRF) £1.98 - 4.95

(BCBI) **£3.10** 



## RING OF FIRE (ORGANIC) *Capsicum annum*

This is one of our staple chilli varieties to grow. It is very reliable and does exactly what it says on the tin - for better or worse!

The plants are compact growing to 45cm, and produce an abundance of fruit 1cm wide and 6-7cm long. This variety measures 70-85,000 SHU on the Scoville Scale, which classes it in the hot but not unbearable heat range. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

# CLIMBING FRENCH BEANS



BLAUHILDE (ORGANIC)

Phaseolus vulgaris

We like to grow a variety of different colour beans as they are such a versatile crop. Blauhilde can be grown outside or indoors and makes an excellent market garden variety as it's productive, disease resistant and exquisite in taste. (Average seed count in regular packet - 80)



## BORLOTTI DI FUOCO (ORGANIC) Phaseolus vulgaris

Borlotti is one of the most beautiful climbing French bean varieties available. The pods have a stunning colour with dapples of bright pink and white. The bean itself is creamy white with maroon speckles.

We love them for their excellent taste, colour and versatility. Either eat the young pods raw or cooked, or the beans when matured. Just shell and use like a dry bean. (Average seed count in regular packet - 60)



## COBRA (ORGANIC) Phaseolus vulgaris

Cobra is an extremely popular and very reliable French bean variety and an RHS Award of Garden Merit winner. It's got everything you'll want from a bean. It produces an early crop of stringless round green pods that have the most delicious flavour.

The showy violet-purple flowers will stand out in your garden and you'll be surprised at how long your beans will keep coming. (Average seed count in regular packet - 80)



#### GOLDEN GATE (ORGANIC) Phaseolus vulgaris

A heavy-cropping pole bean variety that we really enjoy for the buttery, smooth textured beans that will stay tender and stringless even as they get larger. A great addition to your other green and purple beans. (Average seed count in regular packet - 75)

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(BCCo) £3.10 - 5.80

(BCGG) **£3.00** 

(BCBF) **£2.95 - 5.50** 

## COURGETTE



## BLACK BEAUTY (ORGANIC)

## Cucurbita pepo

A classic dark-green summer squash with creamy white flesh. Best picked young when no longer than 25cm. The plants have an open growth habit which makes it easy to pick the fruit and they won't stop coming! Try battering and frying the male courgette flowers for a gourmet addition to a summer meal. (Average seed count in regular packet - 17)



COCOZELLE (ORGANIC)

Cucurbita pepo We have grown this traditional Italian variety of courgette for many years and it has become a staple part of our summer diets. It is a prolific producer of good looking and great tasting fruits. It has a bush-type growth habit making it suitable for smaller plots or even container growing. (Average seed count in regular packet -20)

New for 2023

(SSSo) £2.95

(SSTN) £3.00

(CuCa) **£2.10** 

(SSCo) £3.00



## SOLARA (ORGANIC)

Cucurbita pepo A bright yellow variety producing an abundance of fruits over a long period. Solara is a fantastic modern open-pollianted yellow fruited courgette. We are really impressed with how productive and uniform this variety is compared to other yellow varieties we have tried and they taste superb. A couple of plants will keep you well fed throughout the summer. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)



## TONDO DI NIZZA (ORGANIC) Cucurbita pepo

If you're looking for something a little bit different in your courgette patch, Tondo di Nizza would be a good choice. It is an Italian heritage variety that provides you with an abundant crop of round courgettes. Best harvested when approximately 10cm in diameter, just before the skin darkens in colour. (Average seed count in regular packet - 15)

# **CUCAMELON**



#### CUCAMELON (ORGANIC) Melothria scabra

An usual cucumber relative producing an abundance of grape-sized crunchy fruits. Cucamelons have become popular addition to the veg patch in recent years. Despite the name they are neither cucumber or melon but their own species, Melothria scarba.

They are best grown up a trellis system as they have a sprawling growth habit. Their fruits are crunchy, fresh and tangy, and make a great snack or pickle. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



## (SSBB) **£2.50 - 3.50**

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## CUCUMBER



## CRYSTAL LEMON (ORGANIC)

#### Cucumis sativus

First cultivated in 1894 in New Zealand, these small apple shaped cucumbers with pale skins are an unusual and very pleasing variety of cucumber. The plant is an attractive climber and will produce prolifically throughout the summer, whether planted in a container or in free draining soil. The skin gets tougher as the fruit ages so they are best picked early on. (Average seed count in regular packet - 11)



## MARKETMORE (ORGANIC)

Cucumis sativus As British reggae artist Macka B makes clear in his ode to 'Cocombers' (see youtube for reference) the humble cucumber has many a good reason to grow and eat it. The Marketmore variety produces luscious, cylindrical, dark green fruits and does so in abundance throughout the summer. It grows well in both poor and rich soil conditions and will ensure you are full of good electrolytes for the rest of the year. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

## DWARF FRENCH BEANS



## BORLOTTI (ORGANIC)

Phaseolus vulgaris

This is a very versatile and strikingly beautiful bean. The immature pods can be eaten whole as green beans. When the pods change colour from green to cream and pink you can also shell and eat the beans inside. Or you leave them to mature fully and eat them then or dry and store.

Dwarf beans are good for growing in containers. They will generally grow about 45cm tall and crop slightly earlier than their climbing cousins. (Average seed count in regular packet - 60)



FARADAY (ORGANIC) Phaseolus vulgaris

This is one of our favourite dwarf beans, it is a modern variety bred for disease resistance, and it does exactly what it says on the tin! It makes delicious beans, eaten raw or cooked. (Average seed count in regular packet - 80)



SAXA (ORGANIC) Phaseolus vulgaris

We chose this bush bean variety as it's especially suitable for poor weather and growing conditions. If you want to grow beans over a long period of time, Saxa is the best choice as it is robust and can be sown early in May right through until July. Needless to say, it tastes delicious. (Average seed count in regular packet - 60)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



## (CuCL) **£2.25**

(CuMa) £2.00 - 4.00

(BDBo) £2.95

(BDFa) **£2.71 - 4.00** 

(BDSa) **£2.90** 



## FENNEL



#### PERFEKTION (ORGANIC) Foeniculum vulgare

Perfektion creates a succulent, round, white bulb with fine flesh. It has a delicious anise flavour and is reliable in its growing pattern. This variety also has attractive fern-like foliage which is also edible and good for adding a hint of anise to your cooking. Suitable for early or late cultivation. (Average seed count in regular packet - 130)

## KALE



## BEAR NECESSITIES (ORGANIC)

Brassica napus An unusual ultra-frilly Red-Russian type. Bear Necessities has leaves unlike any other kale as it was bred from a cross between a mizuna and a kale. It's ultra frilly leaves lend themselves to salads when young and are great cooked when larger.

The leaves have a high volume and surface area which means they stir-fry particularly well, easily getting coated in delicious flavours and holding their shape. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)



## CAVOLO RAINBOW (ORGANIC)

Brassica oleracea

A Frank Morten cross from Wild Garden Seed in Oregon, USA of Cavolo Nero 'Lacinato' and Redbor hybrid kale. The majority of the plants have savoyed, blue-green leaves with ruffled edges, others are more purple or more white, some have more ruffling and others less. When grown outdoors the colours will intensify with the cold. It is a hardy and very beautiful kale tasting. sweet and aromatic.

We planted 'Lacinato rainbow' in our 2018 trial and relished in this diverse variety that tastes amazing and is more funky and cold-resistant than the usual Cavolo Nero (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)



#### DAZZLING BLUE (ORGANIC) Brassica oleracea

This showy kale was bred by Hank Keogh from Avoca Farm in Oregon, USA. He back-crossed 'Lacinato rainbow' with the Wild Garden Seed 'Lacinato'. In looks it resembles a Cavolo Nero kale and it has stunning blue, green and pink colours. The leaves are savoyed and have underturned margins, the plant grows upright and is very cold-hardy - more so than any other Cavolo Nero type kales. Tender and tasty, great for sautéing, steaming or finely chopped in a salad. A solid vegetable for the home or market garden. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)



## DWARF GREEN (ORGANIC) Brassica oleracea

A deep green leaf colour and frilled edges with a succulent delicate flavour make this variety an attractive kale to grow. It is extremely hardy and withstands frosts in the winter when no other brassica stays standing while also producing well when sown in spring for a summer harvest. It is a Scottish heritage kale dating back to the 19th century, originally known as 'Dwarf Curlies' or 'Scotch' kale. It grows to only 40cm high making it perfect for windswept sites or for growing in containers. (Average seed count in regular packet - 180)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:

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## Page 18

## (FePe) **£2.00 - 4.90**

(KaLR) **£2.30 - 4.80** 

(KaDB) **£2.95** 

(KaDG) **£2.30** 

(KaBN) **£2.30** 

## Kale continued...



## NERO DI TOSCANA (ORGANIC)

Brassica oleracea

Surely this is the king of kales! We always grow masses of Nero di Toscana, we cant get enough of it. It has been a staple of Italian cuisine for centuries and heavily features in the iconic 'Ribollita' Tuscan bean stew.

Although usually steamed or stir-fried, kale leaves can also be massaged raw with a little olive oil, salt and lemon juice and made into a salad. Well worth a try if you haven't already! (Average seed count in regular packet - 150)



#### PENTLAND BRIGG (ORGANIC) Brassica oleracea With parents such as these it's no wonder this is su

With parents such as these it's no wonder this is such a great variety.

In form it is very much in between it's parents, being slight less curled than Dwarf Green but more curled than Hungry Gap. It is extremely cold hardy and produces an abundance of sweet and delicious shoots in the spring which can be eaten like sprouting broccoli (known as kale raab) (Average seed count in regular packet - 120)



## RED RUSSIAN (ORGANIC) Brassica napus

A productive plant, it reaches 90cm in height and can be harvested throughout the winter becoming sweeter after a frost. The tender young leaves are great in salads and larger leaves are attractive as well as delicious. This kale is so tasty you can eat it on its own, but it's also a perfect addition to smoothies, salads and stir fries. You can get in the habit of adding it to most meals! In Scotland, kale used to be a mainstay of the traditional diet. So much so that to be "off one's kail" means to feel too ill to eat. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

## KOHLRABI

## PURPLE DELICACY (ORGANIC) Brassica oleracea

Purple Delicacy is certainly our shining star for early and late season crops. It grows fast and consistently and is ready to harvest after 8-12 weeks. Although sometimes considered a root vegetable, kohlrabi is actually the swollen stem of the plant. The whole plant can be eaten, the large leaves can be cooked like kale and smaller leaves make a pretty and very tasty addition to salads. *(Average seed count in regular packet - 125)* 



## SUPERSCHMELZ (ORGANIC) Brassica oleracea If left to grow it can reach up to 8kg. It is resistant to bolting and splitting.

Fred has been growing Superschmelz kohlrabi for years. "It gets huge, it stores really well AND it stays tasty and crunchy!" is his verdict.

We think kohlrabi is best eaten raw in salads or straight from the garden. It is also nice pickled or added to stews and stir fries. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



VITALSEEDS.CO.UK

### (KaCN) £2.90 - 3.50

(KaRu) **£2.30 - 4.40** 

(KaPB) **£2.30** 

(KRDe) **£2.20** 

(KRSu) **£2.20** 

Page 20

(LkBa) **£3.00 - 6.50** 

(LkGW) £2.30

## LEEK



BANDIT (ORGANIC)

Allium porrum

We have even adopted (and adapted) a Catalan festival - the calcotada - to celebrate the end of the leek harvest in mid-May where we barbecue the remainder of the crop and have a party! (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

GIANT WINTER (ORGANIC)

Allium porrum This is a leek of outstanding flavour which will sit even through the bleakest of winter weather, providing you with a delicious ingredient to add to your wholesome winter stews and soups. Eating large amounts of leeks is one of the things that makes the winter months bearable and we are always sad when they come to an end in spring. (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)



HANNIBAL (ORGANIC) Allium porrum An organic favourite, Hannibal produ

## (LKHA) £2.65 - 4.95

An organic favourite, Hannibal produces a long dense shaft and mid-green leaves. It has a mild flavour and plenty of heart. (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)



PANDORA (ORGANIC) Allium porrum

Pandora is a quick maturing summer leek that can be harvested from late summer onwards. It's delicious and uniform and makes long tender white stems and a dark blue-green foliage.

You shouldn't really be eating leeks in August, but if you sow Pandora in time you'll find that it is possible! (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)

# LETTUCE



BRIGHTON (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa Hardy and reliable lettuce variet (LeBr) £1.98

(LkPa) **£3.00** 

Hardy and reliable lettuce variety producing large delicious heads making it ideal for winter and early spring use. It is one of the varieties we sow in September (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



VITALSEEDS.CO.UK

## Lettuce continued...

# New for 2023

## **DEVIL'S TONGUE (ORGANIC)**

Lactuca sativa

A dark red spring lettuce with tapered cos-like leaves forming loose heads at maturity. Bred by lettuce breeding wizard Frank Morton, this variety has a very buttery texture and thick leaves.

This is not a pure-line variety, as evidenced by its black and white seeds, but a multiline "landrace" of similar looking (but genetically distinct) sub-lines. Most of our ancestors' staple crops, their legumes and grains, were also multi-lines. The genetic diversity of these farmer-varieties was the original crop insurance against the vagaries of nature. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)

#### ELF EARS OAK (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa

Elf Ears Oak is a tasty and beautiful lettuce with slightly savoyed leaves that have an elongated tip and a dense compact heart. The leaves almost resemble a dandelion in terms of shape but the good taste, sweetness and crunch make it a superior salad ingredient. It was bred by Frank Morten from Wild Garden Seed in Oregon, USA. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)

## FINE SPECKLED OAK (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa Fine Speckled Oak was one of Fred's favourites in our 2018 lettuce trials. It was super healthy and had very consistent growth throughout the population. At full maturity it forms a dense colourful heart. An attractive and vigourous lettuce bred by Wild Garden Seed in Oregon, USA, that we are very pleased to offer in our catalogue. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)

FLASHY BUTTER OAK (ORGANIC)

## Lactuca sativa

This lettuce was bred by Wild Garden Seed in Oregon, USA. It is an open-pollinated variety that was introduced in 2005. It is very versatile, can be picked as baby green, baby head, at full maturity or one leaf at the time. The texture is crispy and smooth, with a delicate and sweet flavour. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)



#### FLASHY LIGHTNING BUTTER-OAK (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa

Exquisitely mild, juicy and sweet with a silky texture. This is a masterpiece of lettuce breeding from Wild Garden Seed in Oregon, USA. We are extremely happy to offer this variety in our catalogue as it combines all the goodness one can find in a lettuce. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

# **GRENOBLE RED (ORGANIC)**

Lactuca sativa

Grenoble Red or Rouge Grenobloise is a Batavian heirloom lettuce with waffled leaves that are tinged with a maroon colour. It's tolerant to the cold and has an ability to grow for longer than most varieties when its outer leaves are repeatedly picked off. While it is an excellent winter variety, it can also be sown in the spring and summer too. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:

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(LeFL) £2.00 - 3.90

(LeGR) **£1.98** 

.....

(LeFB) **£2.00** 

(LeFS) **£2.00** 

(LeDT) **£1.98** 

(LeEE) **£2.00 - 3.90** 







## Lettuce continued...



LITTLE GEM "MAUREEN" (ORGANIC)

Lactuca sativa

Maureen is a superb selection of Little Gem with resistance to Downy Mildew, tipburn and Bremia BL.

The plants are quick to mature and resistant to bolting. They form neat heads of a brilliant green colour with extremely sweet and flavoursome, crunchy leaves forming a tightly filled heart.

This is our first choice of lettuce, it's simply one of the best lettuces to grow whether you're growing it in a garden or a larger scale. (Average seed count in regular packet - 225)

## LITTLE LEPRECHAUN (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa

Cos or romaine lettuces are probably one of the oldest types of cultivated lettuce, originating in the Mediterranean. Little Leprechaun is popular as a salad leaf crop forming a compact, upright, dense lettuce with crunchy and tasty leaves, slightly tangy and very delicious. It can be grown outdoors throughout the growing season and is an old-time favourite amongst growers, gardeners and us. (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)



# MARVEL OF FOUR SEASONS (ORGANIC)

Marvel of Four Seasons is one great heritage variety. It is as pretty as it is tasty, crisp in texture and vigorous in growth.

It is slow to bolt and tolerant of low temperatures making it suitable for an extended growing season. The solid green head is tinged with red, bronze and burgundy colours. In cooler spring and autumn weather its colours will intensify and make it even more beautiful. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)



## OUTREDGEOUS (ORGANIC)

Lactuca sativa

In 2014 Outredgeous became the first lettuce ever to be grown in space on the International Space Station due to its reliability and because it is so easy to grow.

It's an upright cut salad that forms a loose romaine head at maturity. An outrage of red in your salad bowl makes this a firm favourite for gardeners and growers. (Average seed count in regular packet - 175)



## REALLY RED DEER TONGUE (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa

This is definitely one of our favourite varieties of lettuce. It is productive and easy to harvest as well as being crunchy and extremely tasty. It adds a real depth of colour to any salad with leaves that are almost black! (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)

.....



RED SALAD BOWL (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa

This lettuce is known for its excellent taste and resistance to bolt. It has a non-heading growth habit with sweet, succulent oakleaf type leaves. We love it for its tenderness and cheerfulness in salads. As the name suggests one lettuce is usually enough to fill a whole salad bowl. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:

VITALSEEDS CO UK



(LeOR) £1.80 - 3.00

(LeRR) **£1.80** 

(LeSB) £1.98 - 3.00

(LeMF) £1.98 - 3.00

Page 22

(LeMa) £2.20

(LeLL) **£2.50** 

## Lettuce continued...

## Page 23





**RED SOLIX (ORGANIC)** 

Lactuca sativa Red Solix is a fantastic variety, cropping large amounts of fresh and crunchy leaves over a long harvest period. It makes a fantastic addition to the summer salad bowl. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)



#### RUFFLED SOUL (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa

The most attractive lettuce I grew in 2018, it contrasts brilliantly with other leaves in a mixed salad. Bred by Frank Morton of Wild Garden Seed this lettuce is very suitable for repeated harvests since it is slow to bolt and the leaves do not get too big. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)



## TILL (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa

Green variety forming a dense rosette of arrow-shaped leaves. Till seems to be quite a unique variety. Although officially loose-leaved, it forms a very dense head, with a texture similar to little gem.

If you like a lettuce big on crunch and fresh taste then Till might be the one for you. Leaves can be harvested cut-and-come-again style or whole heads can be harvested. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)



## VALDOR (ORGANIC)

Lactuca sativa

A green winter-hardy butterhead lettuce with great taste and texture. We wanted to include Valdor amongst our lettuces because it is simply one of the best winter lettuces there is. It forms tight mediumsized heads with the classic look of a butterhead. Sown in September, it can be cultivated outside or undercover for continuous picking or left to mature for an early spring harvest. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)



#### WILD GARDEN MIX (ORGANIC) Lactuca sativa

This is a funky blend of all sorts of lettuces that have been bred and are being bred by our favourite seed company in the United States, Wild Garden Seed.

"Instant lettuce diversity for cut salad or fresh market racks" is how they describe it on their website. "This is by far the most popular mix. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



VITALSEEDS CO.UK

(LeRS) **£2.00** 

(LeVa) **£1.98** 

(LeWG) **£2.00** 

(LeTi) £1.95

# LUFFA



## LUFFA (ORGANIC)

Luffa aegyptiaca

A quick growing plant from the cucurbit family orginally from India producing 30 to 40 centimetres long fruits. Whilst the young fruits are actually edible, the mature ones can be boiled or dried to remove the flesh, revealing the sponge like fibres.

Germination can be tricky, needs hot temperatures constantly between 24 and 30°C and a long season to make a sponge. (Average seed count in regular packet - 15)

## ONION



RED BARON (ORGANIC) Allium cepa

Red Baron is a classic red onion producing large globe-shaped bulbs with a punchy flavour. They can be grown as a main-crop onion but are also suitable for bunching when picked young. (Average seed count in regular packet - 350)

#### STUTTGARTER (ORGANIC) Allium cepa

We are excited to be selling this onion originating in the South West of Germany where Ronja is from. This onion also named "Stuttgarter Giants" is of fine flavour and stores well into spring provided that they are kept cool and dry. We recommend growing them in clusters and thinning them out when the plants are spring onion size to be enjoyed as such. (Average seed count in regular packet - 350)



TROPEA LUNGA (ORGANIC) Allium cepa

Extremely sweet pointed red onion sought after by chefs around the world. This is probably Italy's most famous onion. It comes from the Tropea region which has the perfect climate for onion growing.

The pointed pink bulbs have a very high sugar content making them perfect for caramelising. Indeed some say they are so sweet you can eat them like apples! Each to their own, but you get the point... (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)



#### ZEBRUNE (ORGANIC) Allium ceba

With their elongated bulbs and their creamy brown colour tinged with a deep pink, this shallot looks as elegant as it tastes. It has an ivory white coloured flesh that is crisp and tightly layered.

Zebrune is classed as a 'banana shallot' which is essentially a cross between an onion and a shallot. It inherited the best qualities from both sides. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:

VITALSEEDS CO.UK



(OnSg) **£2.30 - 3.60** 

(OnCT) **£2.80** 

(OnZb) **£2.80** 

(Lufa) **£2.65** 

(OnRB) £2.25 - 3.60

Page 25

(PaTT) **£1.90** 

## PARSNIP



## TENDER AND TRUE (ORGANIC)

## Pastinaca sativa

Tender and true is one of the best tasting parsnips you will find. If left in the ground until after the first frosts, the starch will turn into sugars and make this parsnip even sweeter. (Average seed count in regular packet - 500)

## PEAS



## AMBASSADOR (ORGANIC)

*Pisum sativum* Big juicy peas in a pod. What could possibly be more exciting than growing your own peas to go with a traditional dinner. Ambassador is robust, vigorous, productive and delicious. It won the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit in 1993 which was reconfirmed in 2005 and is one of the most widely used peas of its kind. (Average seed count in regular packet - 80)

#### BLAUWSCHOKKER (ORGANIC) Pisum sativum

A stunning heritage pea variety with dark purple pods and bright green peas inside. This ornamental pea is an old European heritage variety. It has attractive pink flowers followed by lots of dark purple pods that contain tender, sweet, green peas. The delicious peas can be eaten fresh green and podded or allowed to mature for shelling and drying. Being mostly culitvated in North Germany and Holland, it is a robust and very productive variety. Traditionally this pea is eaten as a dry pea in a soup or stew but it's also very tasty and tender when eaten fresh. (Average seed count in regular packet - 80)



## GOLDEN SWEET (ORGANIC) Pisum sativum

Golden Sweet makes an unusual attraction in the pea patch. We love the extraordinary colour changes of the flower from cream to purple and blue when they mature. When the pods are still young they're very sweet and crunchy, as the pods get bigger they'll become more stringy which makes them better for cooking rather than eating raw. (Average seed count in regular packet - 60)



## HERAUT (ORGANIC)

Heraut are delicious raw, when picked young and still flat, steamed or stir-fried, fantastic in salads and you can eat them 'pod and all'. They produce an early crop of sugar snap peas on productive and hardy plants. If picked regularly, more growth is encouraged.

This variety is quick to be ready to harvest and has a great taste, too. So much so that we couldn't resist snacking on it while growing it. (Average seed count in regular packet - 60)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



# VITALSEEDS.CO.UK

(PeAm) £2.25

(PeBS) **£2.45** 

(PeGS) **£2.35 - 5.20** 

(PeHe) £2.35 - 4.20

## (PeSH) £2.30



## PFPPFR



## CORNO DI TORO (ORGANIC)

SWEET HORIZON (ORGANIC)

pot! (Average seed count in regular packet - 60)

Capsicum annum

Pisum sativum

The fruits have a long, pointed shape (hence the name "Bull's horn" in Italy). They can be picked when green and will turn red when fully ripe. With a deliciously sweet flavour and a crisp texture, it's ideal as a snack pepper or to cook with. Best to be enjoyed on the barbecue!

Sweet Horizon will grow up to 1.2m tall, producing large and very sweet pods over a long period of time. We found this variety to have good resistance to powdery mildew, and exquisite flavour either raw or cooked. We love grazing on mangetouts in the garden, so much so that they rarely make it to the cooking

(Average seed count in regular packet - 15)

## (PSYW) **£2.35**

(PSCT) **£2.45** 



## YOLO WONDER (ORGANIC)

Capsicum annum Plants produce large green fruits which mature to red when fully ripe. A productive plant with a spread of about 60cm which is very suitable for British summers. I pick these green to encourage more fruiting and because the taste is just excellent, raw or cooked. - Guest description by our friend Dan from Chagfood CSA! (Average seed count in regular packet - 15)

## RADISH



## BLACK SPANISH (ORGANIC)

Raphanus sativus This radish is an old variety that is easy to grow and makes an excellent winter vegetable. It is larger than the standard radish with a spicy taste and crisp texture. It's great eaten raw in salads or cooked in a stew, stir-fry or used like a turnip. It's a reliable and robust radish that will keep throughout the winter outside or in storage, staying tender and without getting woody.

Sow thickly in July or August and thing out for small early harvests. (Average seed count in regular packet -250)



## CHERRY BELLE (ORGANIC)

Raphanus sativus

We love the way radishes signal that summer is well on the way! These cherry-like beauties are so fresh and crunchy and such a welcome addition to the lunch plate after the hungry gap. This variety was awarded an RHS Award of Garden Merit, making it an excellent choice for home gardeners. (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



# VITALSEEDS CO.UK

(RaBS) **£2.30** 

(RaCB) £2.25 - 3.50

## (RaFB) **£2.05**



## RUNNER BEANS



## EMERGO (ORGANIC)

Phaseolus coccineus

regular packet - 300)

Raphanus sativus

Emergo is a great variety which produces well even in our unpredictable UK climate. As well as being delicious and easy to grow its white flowers make a beautiful addition to the vegetable patch, especially when grown alongside a red-flowered variety such as Scarlet Emperor. (Average seed count in regular packet - 30)

If you were to eat a radish for breakfast, this would be the one. Cute in looks, sweet and mildly pungent in taste and with a succulent crunch, it makes a tasty healthy snack. Introduced in 1879 it became a seller on

Growing it is pure pleasure because they are quick to mature and you can harvest them throughout summer. Best eaten simply, just sliced with some salt on it or mixed in with salad. (Average seed count in



#### SCARLET EMPEROR (ORGANIC) Phaseolus coccineus Scarlet Emperor beans are an old favourite. They are often just grown for their beauty - how great that they can be eaten as well!

FRENCH BREAKFAST 2 (ORGANIC)

the Parisian markets and quickly spread around the world.

The plants have bright red flowers and grow up to 3m tall, producing masses of smooth-textured long green pods that can be eaten as a snap bean. When left to mature they form seeds of a purple colour with black dapples and also make a delicious drying bean. (Average seed count in regular packet - 30)

SALAD LEAVES

## CLAYTONIA 'WINTER PURSLANE' (ORGANIC)

Claytonia sibirica Winter purslane, also known as miners lettuce or claytonia, has heart-shaped elegant looking leaves which are small, abundant and make a great cut-and-come-again salad green. You will get a productive harvest all winter and early spring and if left to self seed, it will just keep coming back year after year.

It is one of those greens that come up in just the right moment when we're most in need of something fresh and it self-manages very well which is why we like it too. (Average seed count in regular packet - 850)



## CORN SALAD (ORGANIC)

Valerianella locusta

Corn salad or lamb's lettuce is a small annual plant that forms rosettes of dark green leaves which have a gentle nutty flavour, soft texture, and are extremely popular as salad greens. It provides a valuable source of fresh greens during the autumn and winter months as it is suitable for growing outdoors with little protection or under cover in the cold. (Average seed count in regular packet - 600)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



VITALSEEDS CO UK

(BREg) **£2.85** 

(BRSE) **£2.80** 

(MSWP) **£1.65** 

(MSCS) £1.90 - 3.20

## Salad leaves continued...

## NEW ZEALAND SPINACH (ORGANIC)

Tetragonia tetragonoides Hardy and succulent vegetable that is similar to spinach in taste and texture and can be used in cooking and salads. It is frost-tender but ready for harvest when true spinach will have long gone.

It's relatively easy to grow and very ornamental with its triangular shaped leaves and a trailing growth habit. (Average seed count in regular packet - 60)



#### RED ORACH (ORGANIC) Atriplex hortensis

Red Orach is also called mountain spinach or French spinach and belongs to the Amaranth family. It is an ancient vegetable that has been cultivated for its leaves for hundreds of years. The leaves are arrowhead-shaped at the base and narrower at the top. They are of an intensely red colour and make a great colourful addition to salads as young leaves. Orach can also be used as an alternative to Spinach as it is easier to grow and less likely to bolt in warm weather. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)



#### SALAD ROCKET (ORGANIC) Eruca sativa The putritious dark green servated le

The nutritious dark green serrated leaves add their fine spice to salads, pasta, pizza, pesto, other sauces or as garnish. Salad rocket is native to the Mediterranean and has a long history of popularity. It is quick to crop and easy to grow and definitely one of our favourite salad leaves. (Average seed count in regular packet - 900)



#### SUMMER PURSLANE (ORGANIC) Portulaca oleracea

(MSPL) **£1.65** 

This is a great salad vegetable undergoing a revival in popularity. It has crisp, fleshy leaves and a refreshing mild and sweet flavour.

This inconspicuous plant is often thought of as a weed but should actually be considered a superfood providing a good source of iron and vitamin A, B, C, and E. It is one of the best plant sources of Omega 3 fatty acids. (Average seed count in regular packet - 1100)



## WILD ROCKET (ORGANIC)

Diplotaxis tenuifolia Delicious and spicy serrated leaves, smaller and more delicate than their cultivated cousin. We love wild rocket as it just keeps on giving, even once it is going to seed it continues to produce new leaf growth if you cut it back. (Average seed count in regular packet - 500)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:





#### (MSNZ) £2.38 - 5.60

(MSOr) £2.05 - 4.00

(MSSR) £1.98 - 3.50

(MSWR) £1.80

(SpGW) **£2.30 - 3.50** 

(SpMa) £2.30

(Onls) £2.55

(OnWI) **£2.10 - 3.95** 

(SdWi) £1.60

## SPINACH



## GIANT WINTER (ORGANIC)

#### Spinacia oleracea

This productive spinach is particularly recommended for autumn and winter cultivation. The dark green characteristically pointy leaves are very aromatic and perfect eaten raw in salads, or delicious cooked. (Average seed count in regular packet - 500)



## MATADOR (ORGANIC)

Spinacia oleracea Matador is 'the' tried and tested variety for your garden with large and tender leaves, bolt- and frost-hardy. It was Ronja's first spinach trial in her mum's raised beds that was a huge success. In spring when the spinach bolts and produces seed, you can easily save it and sow it again for your next crop. (Average seed count in regular packet - 460)

## SPRING ONION



## ISCHIKRONA (ORGANIC)

Allium cepa Ishikrona is definitely one of our favourites. It is beautiful in every way with fresh green coloured leaves and a bright white stem. It is succulent, mild and sweet in flavour, fresh and crispy in texture. It is extremely hardy as well as pest resistant and it stands in the ground for a long time without bulbing up.

As an important ingredient of the Asian cuisine, it can be used in stir-fries, soups and salads. It can be used instead of or alongside onions. (Average seed count in regular packet - 385)



## WHITE LISBON (ORGANIC) Allium cepa

This is traditionally the most popular variety of spring onion, and an essential addition to the veg patch. Quick, hardy and easy to grow. Its speed of growth makes it ideal for catch-cropping and year-round cultivation, with its small size meaning it can be easily squeezed into unused corners of the garden.

Spring onions are an extremely versatile culinary ingredient. Delicious both cooked and raw, they are a staple of our diet! (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)

## SWEDE



WILLHELMSBURGER (ORGANIC) Brassica napus

Swede is a very valuable winter vegetable and easy to grow.

Wilhelmsburger is a German variety from 1935 bred for culinary use. Ronja's favourite recipe for swede is a bake with a creamy sauce and goats cheese. It will also make a great addition in stews or just roasted. (Average seed count in regular packet - 275)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



VITALSEEDS.CO.UK

## SWEETCORN



## GOLDEN BANTAM (ORGANIC)

#### Zea mays

A tall vigorous plant making 18cm long cobs full of medium sweet, rich, delicious kernels when harvested 'milk-ripe'. Best eaten or processed on the day of harvest for full flavour and before the sugars turn into starch. (Average seed count in regular packet - 50)

## TOMATILLO



## PURPLE MOUNTAIN LANDRACE (ORGANIC)

*Physalis ixocarpa* Purple blushed landrace tomatillo productive and easy to grow as transplants. The big cherry tomato sized fruits are enclosed by a papery husk and are of astonishing flavours. It's the combination of tomatoey and lime flavours that make them ideal for salsas and other Mexican and Southamerican dishes. The fruits turn purple in patches on the plant and become more coloured when the fruit is exposed to sunlight after harvesting. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

## TOMATO



## BERNER ROSE (ORGANIC) solanum lycopersicum

Heritage variety from Switzerland with pink coloured fruits of aromatic flavour. A indeterminate tomato that produces round medium-sized beefsteak tomatoes of a light red/ pink colour. Fleshy, thin skinned and with the most exquisite tomato flavours this tomato is a firm favourite amongst gardeners and growers. This traditional Swiss variety is rather late ripening but very worth waiting for. Best grown under cover. (Average seed count in regular packet - 22)



## BLACK CHERRY (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum

They have a superb flavour, not too sweet, not too acid and are very juicy in texture. They have an amazing colour which is the result of a natural mutation discovered by the legendary tomato breeder Vincent Sapp of Tomato Growers Supply in 2003. (Average seed count in regular packet - 25)



## BRAD'S ATOMIC GRAPE (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum

What a tonato! It has crazy colours ranging from green, purple, black to orange and red. They are of a large grape to plum size, slightly elongated with a pointy tip. The fruits hold quite well on the vine and after harvesting without splitting. It is one of the best tasting tomatoes that we grew in 2020. Just make sure they are ripe when you harvest them, indicated by a colour change towards orange or red and a softness to touch. (Average seed count in regular packet - 15)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



Page 30

## (SCGB) £1.90 - 4.00

(TIPM) **£2.45** 

(ToBs) **£2.45** 

(ToBC) **£2.30** 

(ToBAG) **£2.45** 



## Tomato continued...



## GARDENERS DELIGHT (ORGANIC)

Solanum lycopersicum

Gardener's Delight lives up to its name and has been a firm favourite amongst gardeners for years. Rightly it is an RHS Award of Garden Merit winner and also recommended by the National Institute of Agricultural Botany. Long full trusses of small fruits, sugar-sweet flavour and luscious juiciness.

We love this variety and can't recommend it enough. (Average seed count in regular packet - 25)



## **GREEN ZEBRA (ORGANIC)** Solanum lycopersicum

In terms of appearance, this does what it says on the tin, but it does it very well. Fruits grow to around 8cm diameter and plants typically produce 6 to 8 fruits per truss. Quite fleshy, with very good taste and looks wonderful with other red and yellow tomatoes on a plate or at market.

Guest description by our friend Dan from Chagfood CSA! (Average seed count in regular packet - 25)



## MANGO LASSI (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum

Extremely productive red cherry tomato bred for its fine flavour. This is a farm-original variety which we have bred by 'dehybridising' a popular FI variety. We have been stabilising the line for 5 years and think its ready to send out into the world now!

We have been selecting the plants each year for the best flavour and excellent productivity. One of our volunteers thought that the fruits tasted like mango so we have named it Mango Lassi. We hope you enjoy it and would appreciate any feedback you have on it. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)



#### MARMANDE (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum

Marmande is a fantastic variety producing fruits between 60g and 120g on semi-determinate vines which need support and pinching out. The fruits are very tasty raw or grilled on the barbecue. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)



## MATINA (ORGANIC)

Solanum lycopersicum Matina is a potato leaf variety which crops well both under cover and outdoors. The fruits are golf-ball sized (40-45g) and ripen early in the season. The flavour is a delicious combo of sweet and acid. A firm favourite in the veg patch. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)



PAUL ROBESON (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum Paul Robeson is a cult classic. Seed savers and tomato lovers are raving about this variety.

The fruits are large and beautiful with a dusky red colour and green shoulders, their flesh is firm and juicy. It's most famous for it's distinctive smoky sweet and tangy flavour. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:

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(ToGD) **£2.30** 

(ToGZ) **£2.45** 

(ToML) **£2.40** 

(ToMm) £2.30 - 4.20

(ToMt) £2.30 - 4.20

(ToPR) £2.45

Page 31

## Tomato continued...

## Page 32

## (ToPT) £2.65

(ToRu) **£2.45** 



PINK TIGER (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum

Pink Tiger is the most beautiful elongated plum cherry tomato you can imagine. The fruits are about 5cm long and striped with red and gold and have an excellent sweet flavour making them ideal in colourful salads.

This strain of seeds has been bred specifically to resist cracking and their flesh will stay firm for a very long time. (Average seed count in regular packet - 25)



## RUTHJE (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum

This variety was bred 1996 in Germany by Ulrike Behrendt. Flavour and resistance to fungal disease was the main focus of the selection. It can deal well with a low intake of nutrients which promotes good taste. The firm fruits should be left on the plant until fully coloured and will keep for a long time on the plant. They can be stored and will also after-ripen. The plant has strong dark green almost shiny leaves, and short internodal length. (Average seed count in regular packet - 25)



## SANTIAM SUNRISE (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum Santiam Sunrise is without a doubt one o

Santiam Sunrise is without a doubt one of the tastiest tomatoes we have ever encountered. It is Fred's all time favourite for flavour. The fruits are 2-3cm across, growing on strong, stocky indeterminate vines.

Originally bred by the great Adaptive Seeds in the US as an open-pollinated alternative to the famous Sungold F1. The flavour is intensely fruity with a delicious zinginess. We recommend growing it under cover for best results. A real winner. (Average seed count in regular packet - 25)



## TIGERELLA (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum

Indeterminate tomato that fruits relatively early and produces lots of tasty medium-sized fruits with redorange stripes. It is fun to watch the fruits go through their colour changes. A quirky and popular tomato variety guaranteed to impress. Winner of the RHS Award of Garden Merit. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)



## YELLOW SUBMARINE (ORGANIC) Solanum lycopersicum

The fresh, sweet taste with juicy pulp and low acidity levels make this a popular tomato variety that will always look good amongst other tomatoes. The plant is a potato leaf type with an open growth habit. This is one of our most productive varieties, it just keeps on giving.

Great in salads and despite the unusual colour it makes a very delicious tomato sauce. However we end up eating most of them straight off the plant as they are so tasty! (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



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(ToSS) **£2.65** 

(ToTi) £2.30 - 4.20

(ToYS) £2.45

## TURNIP

## GOLDANA (ORGANIC)

Brassica rapa

Turnips are very traditional vegetables which, unlike most of the vegetables we eat, are native to Europe. For some reason they are not as popular as they used to be.

Goldana is a tasty maincrop variety with a uniform golden round shape, probably one of the mildest and sweetest varieties that you can find. It is quick to grow and doesn't need much attention. "Get them in, get them out" is what Fred says. He likes them in soups or stews but they can also be roasted, mashed or grated into a slaw or salad. (Average seed count in regular packet - 400)



## PURPLE TOP MILAN (ORGANIC)

Brassica rapa A classic Italian heritage variety from Milan with a creamy white, firm, crunchy and mildly sweet flesh. Eaten pickled, cooked or raw - it is a very versatile vegetable! The leaves are tasty and nutritious and can be cooked just like other greens. (Average seed count in regular packet - 280)

## WINTER SQUASH



**BLACK FUTSU (ORGANIC)** Cucurbita moschata

The mature fruits can weigh between 1 - 3kg and are deeply ribbed with flattened tops, turning an orange colour in storage. They store well but given the exceptional flavour you will get through them quickly! The deep amber-coloured flesh tastes creamy and nutty. Best roasted with salt, pepper and oil. (Average seed count in regular packet - 12)

#### DELICATA ZEPPELIN (ORGANIC) Cucurbita pepo

Zeppelin-shaped fruits, yellow with green stripes. Incredibly sweet when roasted. Delicata squashes are famous for their sweet flavour when roasted. This superb selection (known as Zeppelin) has been improved by Frank Morton and his crew of plant wizards at Wild Garden Seed in the USA, and is a total winner.

Delicata squashes do not store well so are best eaten before Christmas. (Average seed count in regular packet - 10)

## **New for 2023**



#### DESERT SPIRIT LANDRACE (ORGANIC) Cucurbita maxima

Beautifully diverse new landrace with amazing flavours, textures and colours. Bred and created by the folks at Wild Mountain Seeds in USA, the Desert Spirit has many varieties in its heritage, including Buttercup, our beloved Oregon Homestead Sweet Meat and others. The great diversity of genes will make a beautiful range of colours and shapes with amazing flavours. We are excited to be offering such an enthusiastically bred strain of a landrace squash. Apparently it is as vigorous as it is delicious with excellent storing qualities. (Average seed count in regular packet - 10)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:

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#### (TuGo) **£1.65**

(TuPT) **£1.60 - 3.00** 

Page 33

(SWBF) **£2.85** 

(SWDe) **£2.85** 

(SWDS) **£2.85** 

## Winter squash continued...

## Page 34

## (SWMe) £2.85



**MERUHEN** (ORGANIC)

Cucurbita maxima

Meruhen is a fantastic variety of winter squash with exceptionally sweet flesh - maybe even sweeter than butternut. The fruits are quite round, and are mainly dark green with lighter green/grey stripes. We think its best eaten roasted with a drizzle of olive oil and lightly seasoned with salt and pepper. (Average seed count in regular packet - 13)

#### OREGON HOMESTEAD SWEET MEAT (ORGANIC) *Cucurbita maxima*

(SWOH) £2.50

A large, beautiful and delicious hubbard-type pumpkin, with excellent storage qualities . This is a variety bred by Carol Deppe in Corvallis, Oregon in the USA. She spent years selecting for vigour, good cool-soil emergence, small seed cavity and premium flavour. We believe this variety is a serious contender to Crown Prince F1. It is quite a large variety with a crunchy, sweet flavour. They were extremely prolific in our 2018 squash trials and Ronja's clear favourite in taste. They are great for cooking and even raw they are a real pleasure to munch on.

(Average seed count in regular packet - 10)

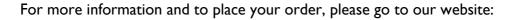


#### RED KURI (ORGANIC) Cucurbita maxima

(SWRK) **£2.80 - 5.50** 

With its orange red skin and golden flesh, Red Kuri is a tasty globe of autumn glory. Firm but smooth, sweet and nutty, rich, creamy - you get the idea! It is Ronja's mum's favourite squash because you can cook it without having to peel it, and also for its fabulous flavour and good storage qualities.

This style of squash originates in Japan but has gained popularity in many other countries like the UK. We love growing squash and they are easy to grow, happy trailing across the ground or up a structure. (Average seed count in regular packet - 13)





# HERBS

## BASIL

## GREEK (BL Ocimum basilia Greek basil (c is delicious. It

#### GREEK (BUSH) (ORGANIC) Ocimum basilicum

Greek basil (or 'bush basil') is a great addition to the plot, its bright green foliage makes it as ornamental as it is delicious. It works really well in containers and crops well over a long period. Can be used like other basils, in sauces, salads or as a garnish. (Average seed count in regular packet - 400)

#### LEMON (ORGANIC) Ocimum basilicum

This unusual basil will enchant you with its wonderful lemony fragrance that is caused by a high content of citral and limonene. It has a milder taste than ordinary basil and can be used in cooking or to make a herbal tea. It also goes exceptionally well in sweet dishes adding a citrusy twist.

The plants have small, green leaves with slightly serrated edges. We just love having it growing in our polytunnel or garden and think it's worth a try if you haven't already. (Average seed count in regular packet - 350)



## RED (ORGANIC)

Ocimum basilicum

Red basil has both ornamental and culinary uses. We use it as garnish or to add colour to salads or made into pesto. It will look great in your garden, not to forget the amazing sweet scent of goodness when you walk past. (Average seed count in regular packet - 350)

#### SWEET GENOVESE (ORGANIC) Ocimum basilicum

With large bright green leaves and a smell to die for this is an essential addition to the veg plot. We think you cannot grow too much basil, we use it in almost every meal throughout the summer months. Genovese makes the most superb pesto, aromatic without being overpowering and giving us a much needed taste of sunshine when stored or frozen and then eaten throughout the winter months.

A robust, trustworthy variety of 'The King of Herbs' with the perfect balance of aroma and subtlety. It is an essential companion to tomatoes. (Average seed count in regular packet - 500)



## THAI (ORGANIC)

Ocimum basilicum

Striking both in flavour and appearance, Thai basil has a more concentrated, spicy flavour than its more well known cousin with notes of anise and liquorice. It has smaller, narrow, pointed leaves with flowers and stems of a deep purple. It's perfect for Thai green and red curries and stir fries and is resilient to longer cooking methods. (Average seed count in regular packet - 350)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



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(ZBGr) **£2.00** 

## (ZBSG) £1.95 - 3.50

(ZBTh) **£2.00 - 3.70** 

(ZBRd) **£2.30 - 3.70** 

(ZBLn) **£2.00** 

## CELERY LEAF



## EARLY BELL (ORGANIC)

#### Apium graveolens

Growing cutting celery is a great alternative to stem celery if you just want to add a bit of that delicious celery flavour to your cooking! Cutting celery is more closely related to wild celery, and has a stronger flavour. The leaves can be chopped and added to stocks, soups, and stews. As there is no need to wait for the plant to mature, the leaves can be harvested before traditional celery is ready. The plants are very hardy and will withstand a decent frost. If left in the ground over winter the plants will flower in spring producing many flowers which the bees will love! (Average seed count in regular packet - 1350)

## CHIVES



## COMMON CHIVES (ORGANIC) Allium schoenoprasum

Without a doubt one the most versatile herbs! Chives are so easy to grow and can be added to just about any dish. We put them in soups, salads, omelettes, stir fries, etc. The flowers are also delicious and make a very attractive addition to summer salads, with their mild onion flavour. (Average seed count in regular packet - 600)

## COMMON VERVAIN



## COMMON VERVAIN (ORGANIC)

Verbena officinalis Beautiful herbaceous perennial plant with delicate spires of small liac flowers. It is a native wildflower and traditional druid herb and medicinal plant. The plants will grow in garden beds or in grassland, and will tolerate poor soil well. Grows up to around 60cm tall. (Average seed count in regular packet - 500)

## CORIANDER



## FILTRO (ORGANIC) Coriandrum sativum

This high-yielding variety is excellent for flavouring curries, stews, rice dishes and as a garnish for soup and in salsa. All parts of the soft, light stems and leaves can be used. The flowers grow in pretty umbels, and if left to seed, the small seed heads can be used fresh or dried and used in cooking for added flavour and texture. (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



(ZCLE) **£2.30** 

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## ..... (ZChS) £2.30 - 4.50

## (ZVba) £1.95

(ZCo) **£2.30 - 4.00** 

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# DILL



## DILL (ORGANIC) Anethum graveolens

A beautiful ancient plant originating from the Mediterranean that used to be known for its medicinal properties and is mostly utilised for culinary purposes today.

The fine feathery leaves have a flavourful complex taste and can be chopped and added to sauces to go with fish or vegetables or just sprinkled on top of your meal to add colour and flavour. Traditionally also used for pickling; try using the flowers or seeds too. (Average seed count in regular packet - 500)

# ECHINACEA



## ECHINACEA (ORGANIC)

Echinacea purpurea

A herbaceous perennial plant with stunning pink/ purple flowers late into the Autumn. Echinacea is one of the more well-known and studied medicinal plants, and because of overharvesting of wild populations has now become rare in the wild. The flowers are also beautiful in the garden and lovely as a cut flower. It grows easily in this climate, although prefers a well-drained spot as the roots can get damaged in wet winters. The new spring growth is also very attractive to slugs and may need some additional protection. (Average seed count in regular packet - 30)

# GERMAN CHAMOMILE



## GERMAN CHAMOMILE (ORGANIC)

Matricaria recutita A familiar annual plant with daisy like flowers, which will self seed in situ to grow again the next year. Beautiful white daisy like flowers, around 60cm tall ,with a long history of medicinal use as a safe and gentle herb. Well recognised as a calming tea. (Average seed count in regular packet - 1000)

# HYSSOP



## HYSSOP (ORGANIC) Hyssopus officinalis

Semi-evergreen perennial, with aromatic leaves and flowers. Hyssop has traditional medicinal uses, particularly related to the respiratory system, and is also a great plant for pollinators. This is the traditional blue hyssop, which has beautiful bright blue flowers from summer to early autumn, up to around 80cm tall. It likes similar conditions to Rosemary and Thyme, so sunny and well drained. (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



## .....

(ZChm) £1.50

(ZHs) £1.50

(ZEch) £1.50

(ZDi) **£2.00** 



# KOREAN MINT



## KOREAN MINT (ORGANIC)

## Agastache rugosa

Herbaceous perennial plant with spires of lilac/ purple flowers that are hugely attractive to wildlife. Korean mint grows up to 1m tall with flowers that are particularly interesting to hoverflies and bumblebees. It is one of the core 50 herbs in Chinese medicine, and makes a delicious tea which has a minty liquorice flavour. Once established the plants will expand gradually in a clump, which can be divided every few years. (Average seed count in regular packet - 250)

# MARSHMALLOW



## MARSHMALLOW (ORGANIC)

Althaea officinalis

Herbaceous perennial with beautiful soft leaves and white flowers with pink tinges on tall spires. The roots have traditional medicinal properties as a demulcent, and when boiled up form a soft mucilage, which is the basis of what we now know as marshmallows. Marshmallow will grow in damper areas, but will also thrive in a normal garden bed. It will grow 90-120cm tall. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

# PARSLEY



## CURLY: MOSS CURLED (ORGANIC) Petroselinum crispum

Moss Curled is an early maturing variety that was introduced in the 1800s. Its leaves are finely curled like moss and can be used to flavour soups and salads, and many other dishes. It is particularly good for garnishes as the leaves are less likely to bruise when chopped. (Average seed count in regular packet - 600)

## ITALIAN GIANT (ORGANIC)

Petroselinum crispum Parsley is probably the most well-known herb in the world. It is native to the Mediterranean region and was first grown mostly for medicinal purposes. It seems to have become more commonly used in Northern Europe since the Middle Ages and is today's favourite for garnishing, in salads and for cooking.

This Italian variety grows an abundance of dark green leaves. It can be grown in pots as well as in the ground all year round. (Average seed count in regular packet - 600)

# Sorrei



## FRENCH (ORGANIC) Rumex scutatus

French sorrel grows in clumps of 15cm high by 20cm wide. It is easy to grow and easy to pick. Developed in Italy and France in the Middle Ages, the tangy and slightly tart taste packs a punch. Use as a herb, salad leaf or leafy green. Perfect for adding an edge to rich and heavy meals. (Average seed count in regular packet - 350)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:

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(ZPMC) £2.20

(ZPIG) £1.95

(ZFS) £2.20

(ZKM) £1.95

(ZMsh) £1.95

# ST JOHN'S WORT



## ST JOHN'S WORT (ORGANIC)

## Hypericum perforatum

Herbaceous perennial with bright yellow flowers from midsummer. St Johns wort has well researched medicinal properties, and a long history as a medicinal plant. It grows happily in a meadow or in a bed and gets 30-60cm tall. It self-seeds easily and spreads around. This is not a issue in the UK as it is a native wildflower. (Average seed count in regular packet - 300)

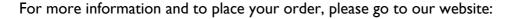
# YARROW



## YARROW (ORGANIC)

Achillea millefolium

A distinctive hardy perennial plant, with a long history of medicinal use around the world. It is also an ingredient in biodynamic compost preparations, and the beautiful white flowers are lovely as a cut flower which are also very attractive to pollinators. This is the wild white flowered variety with occasional hints of pink. Other common names include 'Nosebleed', and 'Carpenter's Weed' reflecting its traditional use in wound healing. Yarrow has a remarkable ability to grow happily in a mown lawn, meadow or garden beds. It can be mown and remain low, but may grow up to 60 - 90cm tall in the right conditions *(Average seed count in regular packet - 1000)* 



VITALSEEDS CO UK



(ZStJ) £1.60

(ZYa) **£2.10** 

# FLOWERS

# ASTER

## SINGLE MIX (ORGANIC) Aster amellus

Gardeners and insects alike love asters. They are great for bringing in beneficial insects to the garden. We love this seed mix due to the variety of colours it produces. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

# BEE MIXTURE

(ORGANIC)

The bees and other beneficial insects in your garden will love this mixture of flowering plants. The nectar will provide them with sugar they need for energy and the pollen contains protein and oils that bees collect to raise the brood.

We rejoice in this bee mixture particularly as it has a diverse range of flowering plants and makes our vegetable plot look beautiful and filled with colour. The edibles amongst the mix we use to jazz up our summer salads. GRAMS not seeds --> (Average seed count in regular packet - 5)

# BORAGE



BORAGE (ORGANIC) Borago officinalis No pature friendly garden is complete

No nature-friendly garden is complete without this wonderful annual flower. It is a prolific self-seeder so you may only need to sow it once to have it forever. (Average seed count in regular packet - 60)

# CALENDULA



## ORANGE (ORGANIC) Calendula officinalis

We love calendula and would never go a season without it. It is really easy to grow and loved by humans and insects alike. There is something magical about finding bumblebees sleeping in calendula flowers early in the morning. The flowers are edible and make a great addition to salads. The petals have good medicinal properties and can be taken as an infusion in hot water or turned into a powerful tincture. Calendula's medicinal actions include but are not limited to: anti-inflamatory, astringent, vulnery, and anti-microbial. (Average seed count in regular packet - 125)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:





(XAs) **£2.34** 

(XBM) £3.50

(XBor) **£1.60** 

(XCa) **£2.28 - 3.90** 

## Calendula continued...

(XCaZ) **£2.58** 



## TRIANGLE FLASHBACK / ZEOLIGHTS (ORGANIC)

## Calendula officinalis

This calendula variety is a real treasure. Pastel shades of orange, pink and peach are tinged with yellow towards the petal base. The backs of the petals are maroon. A pure joy to look at. We were so excited to have found this strain of calendula, bred by Frank Morton from Wild Garden Seeds in Oregon, USA. The flowers don't only look good in the garden or as cut flower, they are also edible and can be used for medicinal purposes, too. An abundance of beauty for your garden! (Average seed count in regular packet -100)

# CALIFORNIA POPPY



# CALIFORNIA POPPY (ORGANIC)

Eschscholzia californica

It's Latin name Escholzia Californica traces back to the physician Dr Johann Friedrich Eschscholz, who discovered and described the plant in 1815. Not only having its origins there, it also also became the state flower of California in 1890. It is quick to flower and will do so profusely for a long period of the summer until it sets seed. A real pleasure to have in the garden, especially in low-maintenance areas as it will just get on with doing its thing. (Average seed count in regular packet - 150)

# CELOSIA



## FLAMINGO FEATHER (ORGANIC) Celosia argentea

A beautiful variety producing white flower spikes with striking pink tips. We love this variety for its feathery plumes which make a great cut flower for bouquets. Bunches can also be hung and dried upside down as everlasting flowers for winter decoration. (Average seed count in regular packet - 75)

# CORNFLOWER



## BLACK BALL (ORGANIC) Centaurea cyanus

A quirky variety producing very dark maroon double blooms. The flowers are so dark they are almost black and have a very dramatic appearance. They make a great cut flower, as well as looking fantastic in the garden. As with all cornflowers, they are edible too. (Average seed count in regular packet - 130)



BLUE (ORGANIC) Centaurea cyanus

A flower that makes every garden happy. Cornflowers produce masses of stunning blue shaded blooms and attract bees and other insects as well. They were once native to European corn fields, but have mostly disappeared from the landscape due to large scale use of herbicides. Today they are mainly fond in gardens and allotments - we grow them in amongst our vegetables. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



VITALSEEDS CO.UK

(XPCa) **£2.70** 

(XCeFF) **£2.50** 

(XCFBB) **£2.10** 

(XCF) **£2.28** 



COSMOS (ORGANIC) Cosmos bipinnatus

ORANGE (ORGANIC)

Cosmos sulphureus

Single, daisy-like flowers in purple, pink or white that will bloom from early summer to autumn. Cosmos is easy to grow, it's great for bees, butterflies and hover-flies and makes a lovely cut flower, too.

We like planting it in between food crops as an ornamental divider. (Average seed count in regular packet -100)

(XCoO) £2.34

(XCosV) **£2.50** 

(XFMBE) **£2.50** 

(XFM) £2.34 - 3.90

This beautiful eye-catching orange flower will bring you joy from early summer until fall. It tolerates poor soils and dry conditions and attracts bees, butterflies and other insects.

We find Orange Cosmos easy to grow and it will self-seed if allowed to. (Average seed count in regular packet - 50)



## VELOUETTE (ORGANIC) Cosmos bipinnatus

An interesting variety with a striking colour scheme of reds pinks and whites. This cosmos is a real eye catcher, and produces a range of different flower types. Some are red with clear white stripes, others are white with pink edges, the rest are somewhere in between. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

# FRENCH MARIGOLD



### BURNING EMBERS (ORGANIC) Tagetes patula

A tall variety with deep orange-red petals and pale outlines. This is a wonderful variety of tagetes which grows taller than the classic French marigold. The petals have a deep colour and almost appear to glow like burning embers.

Plant between tomatoes to ward off pests and add a shock of colour to the patch. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)



## **ORANGE** (ORGANIC) Tagetes patula

Tagetes is a very rewarding plant. It is easy to grow and produces an abundance of stunning yellow to red coloured flowers. It also makes a great companion plant as the scent is disliked by flies and other insects and the roots produce secretions that have insecticidal and nematicidal (against harmful nematodes) effects. It can also be planted in pots or containers and will embellish gardens, doorsteps and balconies. (Average seed count in regular packet - 400)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:

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## (XCo) **£2.34 - 3.90**

# HELICHRYSUM

# **New for 2023**

**New for 2023** 

## MONSTROSUM (ORGANIC)

Helichrysum bracteatum

A tall variety producing an abundance of multi-coloured blooms. This is a wonderful and vibrant helichrysum mix, whose bright blooms look like delicious boiled sweets!

The blooms lend themselves to both fresh and dried flower arrangements so are a great all-rounder. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

## SALMON ROSE (ORGANIC) Helichrysum bracteatum

Helichrysum bracteatum

A beautiful variety producing blooms of peach, salmon and pale orange. This is probably our favourite variety of helichrysum, its subtle and delicate tones look stunning in a bouquet or vase. The cut stems can be hung up and dried for use in winter flower arrangements or just left hanging as decoration. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

Strawflowers (also known as 'everlasting flowers') are a beautiful addition to the garden. They are perfectly suited for drying, just cut the stem before they are fully open and hang in bunches upside down in a dry place out of direct sunlight. They are also great as a fresh flower for use in bouquets. We love the bright colours

in this mix, they remind us of colourful boiled sweets! (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)

## NASTURTIUM DWARF (ORGANIC)

STRAWFLOWER (ORGANIC)

Tropaeolum majus

With different shades of orange, yellow, cream, red and pink, nasturtiums are commonly grown for its pretty big blooms and bright green round leaves. Both leaves and flowers are edible with a taste peppery and sweet flavour.

We love having nasturtium flowers dotted around our land. They attract the bees and just make a beautiful addition in summer salads. (Average seed count in regular packet - 40)

## New for 2023

Tropaeolum majus

PURPLE EMPEROR (ORGANIC)

A beautiful variety producing deep purple flowers with a contrasting yellow throat. We love this variety of nasturtium for its attractive pastel purple flowers, which it produces in abundance over a long season.

The flowers are delicious and add a spicy sweetness to salads. (Average seed count in regular packet - 30)

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(XHeSR) £2.10

(XHe) **£1.62** 

## (XNaD) **£2.58**

(XNaE) **£2.70** 





(XHeM) £1.95

## Nasturtium continued...

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(XNas) £2.58

(XNiM) **£2.25** 

(XNi) £2.34 - 3.00

(XPh) **£2.28** 

(XPo) £1.98



# NIGELLA



TRAILING (ORGANIC) Tropaeolum majus

Trailing mix of bright greenery and different shades of orange, yellow and red coloured flowers. Both leaves and flowers are edible, they taste peppery, hot and sweet.

We love having nasturtium flowers dotted around our land. They attract the bees and just make a beautiful addition in summer salads. (Average seed count in regular packet - 35)

## MIDNIGHT (ORGANIC)

Nigella papillosa

Rich dark purple flowers with spidery seed pods. This is a striking variety of nigella ideal for florestry due its deep colours and quirky seed pods, which can be used both fresh and dried. (Average seed count in regular packet - 150)



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## NIGELLA DAMASCENA (ORGANIC)

Nigella damascena Nigella flowers or 'love-in-a-mist' are a popular and traditional cottage garden flower. The blue, pink and white solitary flowers appear to sit on a bed of 'misty' foliage, hence the common name. The plants get about 50cm high and the blossom is followed by a decorative, inflated seed capsule that also makes a nice addition to cut flower arrangements. (Average seed count in regular packet - 200)



## PHACELIA (ORGANIC) Phacelia tanacetifolia

Phacelia is extremely attractive to honeybees and other beneficial insects providing both pollen and nectar. It is a quick growing annual flower that germinates at low temperatures and has the potential to catch excess nitrogen too. We love sowing it in between our crops and rejoicing in the lovely flowers and insects that it attracts. (Average seed count in regular packet - 1000)

# POPPY



FIELD POPPY (ORGANIC) Papaver rhoeas

The classic field poppies are a favourite in gardens and fields in almost every part of the world. Single, cupshaped flowers with brilliant red petals resembling crepe paper, poppy blossoms never disappoint! Low maintenance and fast flowering, they re-seed easily and come back year after year.

Flowering from June through to September, they're great in a meadow or wildflower garden. Plant them anywhere you want a bright splash of colour that will attract bees and other pollinating flowers. (Average seed count in regular packet - 1350)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



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## Poppy continued...

# New for 202

HUNGARIAN BLUE (ORGANIC)

Papaver somniferum

An old variety with delicate purple silky flowers and large seed pods. This variety was traditionally grown for it's delicious and nutritious seeds, often used in baking.

However it's a true multipurpose crop producing beautiful flowers and dried seed heads which make a striking addition to flower arrangements. (Average seed count in regular packet - 500)

New for 2023

## MOTHER OF PEARL (ORGANIC) Papaver rhoeas

A beautiful mixed variety producing blooms of various dusty shades of plum, pink and white. This is a really eye catching variety, with such delicate colour shades. Some white with raspberry veining, some dusty pink, pale plum and white, on long elegant stems.

Vase life 3-4 days - seer stem ends for 10 seconds.

(Average seed count in regular packet - 500)

# SUNFLOWER



## GIANT YELLOW (ORGANIC) Helianthus annuus

No surprises here! This is a sunflower that does exactly what it says on the tin. Tall and sturdy plants producing huge single yellow flowers. The flowers are much loved by bees and if you leave the plants over the winter they provide a valuable ecological role as winter bird food (the seeds) and a habitat for many insects (the stems). If you have heavy clay soil, incorporating the remains of the plants into the soil in spring will lighten the soil due its high carbon content. (Average seed count in regular packet - 30)



## SONJA (ORGANIC) Helianthus annuus

A wonderful multi-headed variety, particularly for cut flower use. This beauty has become a huge hit on the cut flower scene, producing around eight strong stems per plant. The blooms are a compact 10-15cm diameter, with striking with deep yellow petals and dark centres. The plants are fairly small, growing to around four or five feet tall. (Average seed count in regular packet - 24)

# SWEET PEA



## PAINTED LADY (ORGANIC)

(XSPL) £1.95 Painted Lady is bi-coloured and sweet scenting with delicate pink and creamy white flowers. It is one of the oldest sweet pea varieties and has been grown in England for centuries. It makes a great cut flower and is a delight for every garden.

(Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

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## (XPoHB) **£2.20**

(XPoMP) **£2.10** 

(XSun) £2.35 - 4.00

(XSuS) £2.35

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## VIOLA / WILD PANSY (ORGANIC)

## (XVi) £2.52 - 3.20

(XZiD) **£1.62** 

(XZiP) £2.95

Viola tricolor

Viola tricolour, also known as wild pansy or heartsease, are small plants flowering throughout the season from April to September. They're hardy, frost tolerant and self-seed easily. It is a delightful perennial that grows well in shady areas, beds, containers, rock gardens, edges, even walls and makes a beautiful cut flower.

It's not just a charming beauty for its looks, it is also edible making the most beautiful garnish or addition to salads. (Average seed count in regular packet - 500)

# ZINNIA



## DWARF MIX PINK (ORGANIC)

Zinnia elegans This dwarf mix of Zinnias grow to around 30cm tall. They produce blooms of varying shades of pink, adored by bees and butterflies. We love to plant zinnias in among our vegetable crops. The dwarf varieties take up less space but are equally beautiful to their taller cousins. (Average seed count in regular packet - 100)

## New for 2023



## ZINDARELLA PEACH (ORGANIC) Zinnia elegans

Stunning scabious-flowered variety producing blooms of creamy peach, salmon and apricot. This beautiful variety is a new favourite for us. Its delicate colour palette an long strong stems makes it ideal for bouquets. (Average seed count in regular packet - 20)

For more information and to place your order, please go to our website:



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